

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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SKIDOO MINE
DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK
DEATH VALLEY
INYO COUNTY
CALIFORNIA

HAER No. CA-290

INDEX TO BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs by Gianfranco Archimede, summer 2000

- CA-290-1 VIEW OF ORE BIN, ADITS, AND OVERBURDEN, LOOKING SOUTHEAST, LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 200m EAST OF MILL SITE. MAIN ACCESS ROAD FROM SKIDOO TOWN SITE TO THE MILL RUNS ACROSS CENTER. TRAVELING ON THE ROAD FROM LEFT TO RIGHT GOES TOWARD THE MILL FROM THE TOWN. SEE CA-290-39 (CT) FOR IDENTICAL COLOR TRANSPARENCY.
- CA-290-2 VIEW OF EAST TAILING DAM (FOREGROUND), LOOKING EAST SOUTHEAST UP WASH TOWARD ORE BIN, OVERBURDEN, ADITS, AND ROAD SHOWN IN CA-290-1. MILL SITE IS UP AND TO THE RIGHT OF THIS VIEW. STANDARD FIFTY-GALLON DRUM IN FOREGROUND GIVES SCALE OF WALL.
- CA-290-3 VIEW OF WEST TAILING DAM, LARGE TANK, AND TAILING, LOOKING NORTHEAST. A SIX-FOOT SCALE IS LOCATED AGAINST WALL ON LEFT. PURPOSE OF TANK IS UNKNOWN, BUT APPEARS TO HAVE FALLEN FROM ITS ORIGINAL LOCATION AT THE MILL SITE, UP AND TO THE RIGHT OF THIS VIEW.
- CA-290-4 OBLIQUE OVERVIEW OF MILL SITE, LOOKING SOUTHEAST. NOTICE WEST TAILINGS DAM SHOWN IN CA-290-3 IS LOCATED RIGHT OF CENTER FRAME, NEAR EDGE OF TAILINGS (WHITE) AREA. FOR MORE DESCRIPTION OF MILL COMPONENTS, SEE CA-290-9 BELOW.
- CA-290-5 NORTH ELEVATION OF SKIDOO MILL, LOOKING SOUTH. TAILINGS IN FOREGROUND, DOWN SLOPE FROM CYANIDE PROCESSING TANKS. SEE CA-290-40 (CT) FOR IDENTICAL COLOR TRANSPARENCY.

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- CA-290-6 OBLIQUE OVERVIEW OF NORTHEAST SIDE OF SKIDOO MILL, LOOKING SOUTHWEST FROM NEARBY THE EAST TAILING DAM. THE TANK IN CENTER FOREGROUND IS ASSOCIATED WITH A COLLAPSED STRUCTURE JUST TO THE LEFT OF IT (SEE CA-290-38) WHICH IS MOST LIKELY WHERE THE CYANIDE SOLUTION WAS MIXED, TESTED AND COLLECTED. SEE CA-290-41 (CT) FOR IDENTICAL COLOR TRANSPARENCY.
- CA-290-7 OBLIQUE OVERVIEW OF NORTHEAST SIDE OF SKIDOO MILL, LOOKING WEST FROM ACCESS ROAD. DEAT VALLEY IS BETWEEN THE CLOSEST AND FARTHEST MOUNTAINS.
- CA-290-8 EAST ELEVATION OF SKIDOO MILL AND UPPER ORE BIN, LOOKING WEST FROM ACCESS ROAD. THE ROADWAY ON THIS LEVEL (CENTER) WAS USED FOR UNLOADING ORE BROUGHT ON BURROWS INTO THE ORE BIN AT THE TOP LEVEL OF THE MILL. THE ORE BIN IN THE UPPER LEFT WAS ADDED LATER WHEN ORE WAS BROUGHT TO THE MILL BY TRUCKS.
- CA-290-9 EAST ELEVATION OF SKIDOO MILL, LOOKING WEST. THE LEVELS OF THE MILL CAN BE CLEARLY SEEN HERE. THE UPPER MOST LEVEL CONSISTS OF A CONVEORY THAT BROUGHT ORE TO A JAW CRUSHER. THE CRUSHED ORE WAS CHanneled DIRECTLY INTO A LARGE ORE BIN LOCATED BEHIND THE COVERED WALL (CENTER). THE NEXT LEVEL SHOWS THE BULL (DRIVE) WHEEL ON THE UPPER PART OF THE STAMP BATTERIES. THE NEXT LEVEL DOWN (STAIRS) IS THE LOWER PORTION OF THE STAMP BATTERIES WITH THE MORTAR BLOCKS AND APRONS. THE NEXT LEVEL DOWN (LOWER RIGHT) HELD CONCENTRATION (SHAKING) TABLES AND A CLASSIFIER. MOST EXTERIOR WALL COVERING, TIMBERS, AND ROOF IS MISSING FROM THE MILL. SEE CA-290-42 (CT) FOR IDENTICAL COLOR TRANSPARENCY
- CA-290-10 OBLIQUE OVERVIEW OF WEST AND SOUTH SIDES OF SKIDOO MILL, LOOKING WEST SOUTHWEST. WATER TANK IN FOREGROUND. THE TANK IN THE BOTTOM OF THE RAVINE IS THE SAME AS IN CA-290-3.
- CA-290-11 OBLIQUE OVERVIEW OF WEST AND SOUTH SIDES OF SKIDOO MILL, LOOKING WEST SOUTHWEST, WITH SIX FOOT SCALE AND MAN AGAINST WATER TANK IN FOREGROUND. THE

- TANK IN THE BOTTOM OF THE RAVINE IS THE SAME AS IN CA-290-3.
- CA-290-12 OBLIQUE OVERVIEW OF EAST AND SOUTH SIDES OF SKIDOO MILL, LOOKING SOUTHEAST, SHOWING CONVEYOR SYSTEM AND COLLAPSE OF THE UPPER LEVEL.
- CA-290-13 OBLIQUE VIEW OF UPPER ORE BIN, LOOKING WEST NORTHWEST. THIS ORE BIN WAS ADDED IN THE LATE 1930S. IT IS TRAPAZOIDAL IN SHAPE, WIDER AT THE REAR THAN THE FRONT, AND DIVIDED INTO THREE BINS, EACH WITH ITS OWN CONTROL DOOR (SEE CA-290-15).
- CA-290-14 OBLIQUE VIEW OF UPPER ORE BIN AND LOADING DECK, LOOKING WEST. DETAIL OF SUPPORTING TIMBERS. THE LOCATION OF THIS ORE BIN IN RELATION TO THE MILL CAN BE SEEN IN MANY OF THE MILL OVERVIEWS. (CA-290-4 THROUGH CA-290-8)
- CA-290-15 NORTH ELEVATION OF UPPER ORE BIN, CHUTE, AND JAW CRUSHER, LOOKING SOUTH FROM END OF CONVEYOR PLATFORM. NOTICE THE THREE ORE BIN CONTROL DOORS, CORRESPONDING TO SEPARATE COMPARTMENTS OF THE BIN.
- CA-290-16 OBLIQUE DETAIL VIEW OF STAMP BATTERIES AND APRONS, LOOKING SOUTHWEST. EACH BATTERY CONTAINS FIVE STAMPS. TWO OF THE THREE BATTERIES ARE SIDE BY SIDE IN FOREGROUND, WHILE THE THIRD BATTERY IS SEPARATE (LOWER RIGHT). STAIRWAY UP IS AT LEFT SIDE. SEE CA-290-43 (CT) FOR IDENTICAL COLOR TRANSPARENCY.
- CA-290-17 OBLIQUE DETAIL VIEW OF STAMP BATTERIES AND APRONS, LOOKING SOUTHWEST, WITH FOUR FOOT SCALE AT CENTER.
- CA-290-18 DETAIL ELEVATION OF STAMP BATTERIES AND APRONS, LOOKING SOUTHEAST. MORTARS, BOSSES, MOST SHOES, STEMS, TAPPETS, CAMS AND BULL WHEELS ARE CLEARLY VISIBLE AND INTACT. NAMEPLATE CASTING IS CLEARLY VISIBLE ON THE UPPER MORTAR BLOCKS (BELOW CENTER) "UNION IRON WORKS, SAN FRANCISCO C-L." SEE CA-290-45 (CT) FOR A SIMILAR COLOR TRANSPARENCY.
- CA-290-19 DETAIL OF STAMP BATTERY AUTOMATIC FEEDER, LOOKING EAST. THIS IS THE MIDDLE OF THREE FEEDERS, ONE FOR EACH STAMP BATTERY. THE CHUTE (UPPER RIGHT)

INTRODUCED THE CRUSHED ORE FROM THE ORE BIN. FLOW WAS CONTROLLED BY A SLIDING DOOR ON THE UPPER LEVEL.

- CA-290-20 DETAIL OF BULL WHEEL ON FIRST STAMP BATTERY, LOOKING WEST.
- CA-290-21 DETAIL OF BULL WHEEL ON FIRST STAMP BATTERY WITH FIVE FOOT SCALE, LOOKING WEST.
- CA-290-22 DETAIL OF UPPER STAMP BATTERIES' CAMS, TAPPETS AND STEMS, LOOKING NORTH NORTHWEST. SEE CA-290-47 (CT) FOR IDENTICAL COLOR TRANSPARENCY.
- CA-290-23 DETAIL OF UPPER STAMP BATTERIES' CAMS, TAPPETS AND STEMS WITH SIX FOOT SCALE, LOOKING NORTH NORTHWEST.
- CA-290-24 DETAIL OF STAMP BATTERIES' CAMS, TAPPETS AND STEMS WITH SIX FOOT SCALE, LOOKING NORTH NORTHWEST. SEE CA-290-48 (CT) FOR IDENTICAL COLOR TRANSPARENCY.
- CA-290-25 DETAIL OF STRUCTURAL TIMBERS, ORE BIN, AND STAIRWAY TO TOP FLOOR OF MILL, LOOKING SOUTH FROM SECOND FLOOR OF MILL. PORTION OF ORE BIN ON RIGHT, STAIRS ON LEFT.
- CA-290-26 DETAIL OF STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE OF TOP FLOOR OF MILL, ABOVE ORE BIN, LOOKING WEST FROM TOP OF STAIRWAY IN CA-290-25. THE PIPE AT CENTER WAS USED TO SPREAD CRUSHED ORE COMING FROM THE JAW CRUSHER EVENLY TO ALL AREAS OF THE ORE BIN BELOW.
- CA-290-27 DETAIL OF PROBABLY LOCATION OF PELTON WATER WHEEL ON EAST SIDE OF MILL, LOOKING SOUTH SOUTHWEST. THE END OF THE WATER PIPELINE ENCASED IN A SQUARE BLOCK OF CONCRETE IS AT CENTER. THIS IS THE END OF A 23-MILE PIPELINE THAT SUPPLIED WATER FROM TELESCOPE PEAK IN THE PANAMINT MOUNTAINS.
- CA-290-28 DETAIL OF PROBABLY FLUMEWAY, LOOKING SOUTH FROM WALKWAY OVER CYANIDE TANKS. WATER PASSING THROUGH THE PELTON WHEEL FLOWED THROUGH THIS FLUMEWAY TO EXIT THE MILL, ALONG WITH WASTE WATER FROM THE CONCENTRATION AND CLASSIFYING PROCESSES.

- CA-290-29 DETAIL OF CLASSIFIER, LOOKING NORTH NORTHWEST. THIS MACHINE WAS USED TO SEPARATE SLIMES FROM SANDS TO PREPARE THE WET ORE PULP FOR CYANIDE PROCESSING.
- CA-290-30 DETAIL OF PIPE FEED SYSTEM TO CLASSIFIER, LOOKING EAST. THIS PIPE WAS MOUNTED ALONG THE JOISTS AT TOP, ALIGNING WITH THE TWO SMALLER PIPES PROTRUDING DOWNWARD FROM THE JOISTS. THESE PIPES CONVEYED PULP MATERIAL FROM THE STAMP APRONS ON THE UPPER FLOOR TO THE CLASSIFIER, SEEN IN THE DISTANCE AT CENTER. THE STRUCTURAL SUPPORTS AT CENTER LEFT WERE ADDED AS PART OF THE MILL'S STABILIZATION BY THE PARK SERVICE IN 1993-4. THIS WOUND AND RIVETED PIPE IS IDENTICAL TO THE 23-MILE PIPELINE THAT CONVEYED WATER TO THE MILL FROM TELESCOPE PEAK.
- CA-290-31 DETAIL OF CONCRETE FOOTINGS FOR STAMP BATTERIES AND POWER TRAIN, LOOKING EAST. SEE CA-290-49 (CT) FOR IDENTICAL COLOR TRANSPARENCY.
- CA-290-32 DETAIL OF MAIN DRIVE WHEELS AND BELT TENSIONING DEVICE OF MAIN POWER TRAIN, LOOKING SOUTHEAST, LOOKING FROM BEHIND THE CLASSIFIER. THESE WHEELS DROVE THE BULL WHEELS ON THE STAMP BATTERIES ABOVE. THE TENSIONING DEVICE AT CENTER RIGHT CONTROLLED THE SPEED OF THE STAMPS.
- CA-290-33 DETAIL OF CONCRETE SUPPORTS INTEGRATED WITH MASONRY FOUNDATION OF MILL, LOOKING SOUTHWEST. ROTTED VERTICAL STRUCTURAL TIMBER AT CENTER WAS REINFORCED AND EXTENDED DURING THE STABILIZATION OF THE MILL IN THE EARLY 1990S.
- CA-290-34 DETAIL OF CONCRETE SUPPORTS INTEGRATED WITH MASONRY FOUNDATION OF MILL, WITH SIX FOOT SCALE, LOOKING SOUTHWEST.
- CA-290-35 DETAIL OF TRAMWAY/WALKWAY OVER CYANIDE TANKS, LOOKING EAST. CLASSIFIED SANDS WERE LOADED INTO SMALL TRAM CARS FROM THE SPOUT OF THE CLASSIFIER IN THE DISTANCE AT CENTER AND CONVEYED BY HAND TO BE DUMPED INTO THE TANKS BELOW.

- CA-290-36 OBLIQUE VIEW OF CYANIDE TANKS, LOOKING EAST SOUTHEAST, SHOWING TANK SUPPORTS AND MASONRY FOUNDATIONS. THE SUPPORTING TIMBERS WERE ADDED DURING THE MILL STABILIZATION EFFORT IN THE 1990S. THE TANKS ARE HANGING OVER THE FOUNDATIONS TO GIVE ACCESS TO THE TRAP DOOR IN THEIR BOTTOMS FOR EMPTYING THE SANDS AFTER PROCESSING (SEE CA-290-37). SEE CA-290-50 (CT) FOR IDENTICAL COLOR TRANSPARENCY.
- CA-290-37 DETAIL OF CYANIDE LEACHING TANK DRAIN DOOR AND PIPING SYSTEM. NOTE SPIGOT UNDER BOARD AT UPPER LEFT INSERTS INTO HOLE IN PIPE AT BOTTOM OF FRAME. CYANIDE SOLUTION WAS PUMPED INTO THE TANKS AND THE PREGNANT SOLUTION DRAINED OUT OF THE TANKS THROUGH THIS PIPE, AND BACK INTO A SEPARATE HOLDING TANK ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE MILL. TAILINGS WERE REMOVED FROM THE TANKS THROUGH THE ROUND DRAIN DOOR IN THE BOTTOM OF THE TANK (MISSING) SEEN AT TOP CENTER.
- CA-290-38 DETAIL OF RUINS OF CYANIDE MIXING AND EXTRACTION SHED, LOOKING SOUTHEAST. CYANIDE SOLUTION WAS PREPARED HERE AND PUMPED UP INTO THE PROCESSING TANKS, AND THE PREGNANT SOLUTION WAS ALSO EXTRACTED HERE AFTER THE LEACHING PROCESS WAS COMPLETE.

INDEX TO COLOR TRANSPARANCIES

All color electrostatic copies were made from a duplicate color transparency.

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SYANIDE PROCESSING TANKS. SEE CA-290-5 FOR IDENTICAL B&W NEGATIVE.

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- CA-290-42(CT) EAST ELEVATION OF SKIDOO MILL, LOOKING WEST. THE LEVELS OF THE MILL CAN BE CLEARLY SEEN HERE. THE UPPER MOST LEVEL CONSISTS OF A CONVEORY THAT BROUGHT ORE TO A JAW CRUSHER. THE CRUSHED ORE WAS CHanneled DIRECTLY INTO A LARGE ORE BIN LOCATED BEHIND THE COVERED WALL (CENTER). THE NEXT LEVEL SHOWS THE BULL (DRIVE) WHEEL ON THE UPPER PART OF THE STAMP BATTERIES. THE NEXT LEVEL DOWN (STAIRS) IS THE LOWER PORTION OF THE STAMP BATTERIES WITH THE MORTAR BLOCKS AND APRONS. THE NEXT LEVEL DOWN (LOWER RIGHT) HELD CONCENTRATION (SHAKING) TABLES AND A CLASSIFIER. MOST EXTERIOR WALL COVERING, TIMBERS, AND ROOF IS MISSING FROM THE MILL. SEE CA-290-9 FOR IDENTICAL B&W NEGATIVE.
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- CA-290-44(CT) OBLIQUE DETAIL VIEW OF STAMP BATTERIES AND APRONS, LOOKING SOUTHWEST. THIS IS THE IDENTICAL PERSPECTIVE GIVEN I CA-290-43(CT), BUT THIS IS A TIGHTER (CLOSER) SHOT. APRONS AND STAIRWAY ARE OMITTED. EACH BATTERY CONTAINS FIVE SAMPs. TWO OR THE THREE BATTERIES ARE SIDE BY SIDE IN FOREGROUND, WHILE THE THIRD BATTERY IS SEPARATE (LOWER RIGHT).

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- CA-290-46(CT) DETAIL OF UPPER STAMP BATTERIES' CAMS, TAPPETS, STEMS, AND RELATIONSHIP OF BULL WHEEL (LOWER RIGHT) LOOKING NORTH NORTHWEST. SEE CA-290-22 FOR A SIMILAR B&W NEGATIVE.
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